

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A load transfer plate for use in transferring loads from one lifting device to another comprising a plate having sufficient tensile strength to support a rated load, having at least three connection points spaced around its perimeter for connecting said plate to a load or a lifting device.
2. A load transfer plate as claimed in claim 1, wherein said connection points are apertures in said plate for the attachment of said plate to shackles.
3. A load transfer plate as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a shackle connected to said load transfer plate at each said connection point, said shackles being rated to carry said load.
4. A load transfer plate as claimed in claim 2, wherein said plate is triangular, and said apertures are located in the three corners of said plate.
5. A load transfer plate as claimed in claim 4, wherein said plate has rounded corners.
6. A load transfer plate as claimed in claim 2, wherein said plate is circular, and said apertures are regularly spaced around said plate.
7. A load transfer plate as claimed in claim 2, wherein said plate is tri-lobed, and said apertures are located in the three lobes of said plate.
8. A load transfer plate as claimed in claim 5, wherein said plate is fabricated by cutting from a bar of material.
9. A load transfer plate claimed in claim 1, wherein said plate is made from steel.